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2008-04-09

Xavier University Newswire

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No costs to print
There are no plans to charge students for printing; 10-cent fee display explained, **page 2**



Baseball in full swing
A 3-3 week improves the team to 11-16 for the season, **More on page 12**



Mr. Muskie crowned
Find out who won the honor of Mr. Muskie: GQ, **A&E page 15**

XAVIER NEWSWIRE

Volume XCIII, Issue 26 Published since 1915 by the students of Xavier University www.xavier.edu/newswire week of April 9, 2008

Lavender arrested for intoxication, possession

DOUG TIFFT
Sports Editor

Drew Lavender, a senior point guard on the 2007-08 Xavier basketball team, was arrested at 2:15 Sunday morning following a confrontation with police in the 2700 block of Vine Street in Corryville.

Police reports indicate that Lavender was “highly intoxicated and had to be asked several times to move from a city street intersection, and created a scene while doing so.”

The police continued to ask Lavender to move out of the street, but Lavender “refused until apprehension.”

After searching Lavender, police also discovered him to be in possession of marijuana.

Lavender was released from jail on Sunday after his \$2,000 bail was posted.

Due in court on May 2, Lavender said that the incident was “just a misunderstanding.”

Lavender also said that his immediate future with regards to the April 9-12 Portsmouth Invitational Tournament in preparation for the 2008 NBA Draft was in doubt, saying, “I don’t



Xavier’s senior point guard was arrested Sunday night and was charged with disorderly conduct and possession of marijuana.

know if I am going to be able to go or not.”

When reached for comment, Lavender’s attorney Steve Seibel said “I am going to confirm that I represent Mr. Lavender, and we have initiated our investigation of the circumstances.”

Xavier Associate Vice President and Athletic Director Mike Bobinski indicated that the university was also going to conduct their own investigation into the matter. “We are aware of the charges. We will internally review the matter and will take appropriate disciplinary action as warranted,” Bobinski said.

This arrest comes nine months after Lavender’s previous arrest. On July 27, 2007, Lavender was arrested for recklessly causing an annoyance in a nightclub in the Over-The-Rhine neighborhood of Cincinnati when he repeatedly yelled

“[expletive] this white club.”

Lavender’s legal troubles reach even further back. In the spring of 2006, while Lavender was red-shirting with the Xavier basketball team after transferring from Oklahoma University, Xavier basketball coach Sean Miller organized an intervention for Lavender’s alcohol problems with Lavender, his family and the Xavier coaching staff, according to *Sports Illustrated*.

During the intervention, Lavender became emotional when discussing his high school and Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) coach Bruce Howard who died in 2003 following liver failure.

In January of the 2006-07 season, Lavender’s first as a non red shirt athlete with Xavier, he was removed from the starting line-up for off-the-court problems.

Even before arriving at Xavier, Lavender had been

Looking ahead: The 08-09 basketball season

Doug Tift sits down with Athletic Director Mike Bobinski to discuss Xavier’s upcoming schedule and his new position on the NCAA tournament selection committee. **Page 13**



Tyler Grote writes about what to expect from the newly-improved Atlantic 10. **Page 13**

See the staff’s predictions for A-10 Rookie of the Year, Player of the Year and A-10 Champion. **Page 13**



in trouble with police.

On April 28, 2005, while Lavender was a sophomore at Oklahoma, he and teammate Terrell Everett were arrested for public intoxication and possession of marijuana. The charges resulted from police pulling over a vehicle that Lavender and Everett were in for traveling 51 miles per hour in a 35 mile per hour zone. Upon

approaching the vehicle the police said they smelled “a strong odor associated with burnt marijuana.” After each member of the vehicle failed a field sobriety test, the driver of the vehicle, a 24-year old non-student named Clint Allen Vitosh, was arrested for driving while intoxicated.

Police also discovered a “plastic bag containing

a green leafy substance believed to be marijuana” in the vehicle. Both Lavender and Everett told authorities they were unaware to whom the bag belonged.

The charges on Everett and Lavender, both 20 years old at the time, were dismissed for lack of evidence after Vitosh plead guilty to charges of driving while intoxicated and possession of marijuana.

Students can now use All Card off campus

KELLY SHAW
Senior News Editor

Last week Xavier launched the Off-Campus All Card, a program designed to provide more food options to students with the possibility of creating future student discounts.

Put into effect on March 28, students can now use X-Cash much like a debit card, and buy items from the Hyde Park Chipotle, the Rookwood Donatos and the CVS on Montgomery Rd. The student body was notified about the program through a portal announcement.

The Off-Campus All Card has been a hope of students, SGA, and various administrative offices for the past couple of years, and it was able to be completed this year as part of the SGA executive platform.

“I have worked very closely with the support



NEWSWIRE PHOTO BY JESSICA THIMONS

Sophomore Kelsey Evans uses her All Card at a neighborhood Chipotle.

of SGA President Maggie Meyer and her cabinet and Senate to bring this program to life,” said Bill Moran, assistant director of Auxiliary Services.

Moran and a group of six students, including SGA Student Life Committee

Chair Esteban Gamboa, have worked on the program since December 2007.

Gamboa, already a user of the Off-Campus All Card, believes the program will be beneficial to students and the off-campus companies.

“I think it provides a lot of

different options. Many students have complained about the variety, but now we have a broader perspective,” said Gamboa. “It’s an advantage to tie together the Xavier community and the community of Hyde Park or the community of Norwood.”

Gamboa also hopes to bring incentives to using the Off-Campus All Card, stating that he hopes some of the businesses will eventually include a student discount with the use of X-Cash.

There are already incentives for using the Off-Campus All Card. Anyone making a purchase at one of the off-campus locations above using their X-Cash account between April 1-30 will be entered in a drawing to win an iPod Shuffle, a 2GB Flash Drive or one of two \$20 X Cash deposits to their account.

One of the reasons students did not see this project completed sooner was the lack of resources. Xavier found help in BbOne, a company that runs the e-learning system, vending, laundry and meal plan system on campus. The company also specializes in managing off-

campus programs for over 80 colleges and universities, including fellow Jesuit schools Creighton, Fairfield, Marquette and John Carroll.

Funded by SGA, Xavier pays \$2,000 annually to BbOne to recruit the businesses and manage the technical and financial services.

SGA hopes to have six to 10 more businesses participating in the project by next fall. Buffalo Wild Wings, Dominos, Starbucks, The Cheesecake Factory, Kroger, Walgreens, Betta’s and Graeter’s are all possible participants.

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Professor Profile: Dr. Aaron Szymkowiak

MICHELLE ROSMARIN

Contributing Writer

Dr. Aaron Szymkowiak is an assistant professor in the Philosophy department. His love for philosophy and Cincinnati makes Xavier the perfect place.

What colleges did you attend?

I went to **Pennsylvania State University** for my B.A. in philosophy and M.A. in political science. I went to Boston University for my Ph.D. in philosophy.



What classes do you teach?

I teach Introductory Ethics, Social Contract Theory, the Scottish Enlightenment, Natural Law and International Relations and Markets and Morals. In the coming years, I'll probably be doing a Hobbes seminar and perhaps something on **Kant** as well.



What's your favorite subject to teach?

I especially like teaching anything historical with direct political, legal or moral implications for the present. This does not necessarily mean thinkers with whom I am in agreement (and in fact, it usually does not). I enjoy discussing current affairs with my students, and I like it when they have strong opinions.

I have focused in my own work and my classes on morals and politics, though I find myself increasingly fascinated by aesthetics. Perhaps this is inevitable when a person teaches the **Scots**.



What is your favorite thing about Xavier?

That's easy: the people, especially the students and my colleagues in the philosophy department.

How about your least favorite thing about Xavier?

There's really not much to dislike. Perhaps it feels a bit physically isolated for being a city campus.

Which famous person would you most like to meet?

I had to think about this one for a while. I'll go with **Pope Benedict**.



If you weren't teaching what would you like to be doing?

Had my life taken a different path, I think I could also have been happy with a career in science, law or perhaps even music.

What is the best job you can get with a philosophy degree?

I suppose that depends on whether you intend to do philosophy or not. If the answer is yes, then this is the best job—I think, perhaps more than any other field, teaching is inseparable with philosophy. In my case, I think I knew fairly early that an academic career was right.

On the other hand, there are people who benefit greatly from studying philosophy, though they never intend to become professors. Philosophy is an excellent preparation for a future in law or public service, and can also provide a good foundation for countless other careers.

Technical training will tend to become obsolete quickly — this is never true of the intellectual depth and flexibility that rigorous study of the liberal arts provides.

What music do you have on your iPod?

Some of my students know that the appropriate answer for me is “have you got a few days to talk”? At the moment, a fair amount of jazz, generally from the 50s-to-early-70s. (**Mingus**, Miles and Gil, Sun Ra... there's no such thing as a bad Art Blakey album); some krautrock (Amon Duul, Can); classic glam, post-punk...



I think I could listen to albums like “Script of the Bridge,” “Spirit of Eden,” or “Scott 4” thousands of times and not grow tired of them.

This is a fun question, but allow me to interject a thought: there is a good analogy to be made between looking at popular contemporary arts like music and cinema, and viewing philosophy historically, as we tend to do here at Xavier. To “get” music, you've got to know something about its history. This often means challenging received views of things, and opening debates over supposedly “settled” matters. Why is “Sgt. Pepper” considered the model, iconic 60s pop record? There may be a superior case to be drawn for “Forever Changes” or “Odyssey and Oracle”. There are numberless instances of criminally overlooked talents.

We ought to ask similar questions of more serious matters. The fact that few people accept some view at present—that it has “lost,” so to speak—does not make it unworthy of consideration....

We might still want to stick with our previous view, but now we understand ourselves more fully. A deep historical perspective allows us to appreciate nobility, goodness and beauty more effectively in the present. Back to the iPod: among very recent music, I'm very impressed by Sun Kil Moon's “April” and Tindersticks' “The Hungry Saw.”

Why did you decide to study philosophy?

I found it the most challenging thing I could study, and it touched upon everything else that interested me, be it politics, science, art or religion.

If you were a food what would you be?

Is “a fine **ale**” a permissible answer?



Do you have any advice for your students?

College should be simultaneously very serious and very fun. For most people, this is the one period in life with freedom to grow through exposure to new things. Take advantage of this... in your professors, you have a group of people on hand ready and willing to assist you.

BRIEFS

Katie Rosenbaum, Editor
News Desk: 745-3607
newswire-news@xavier.edu

E/RS lecture

Robin Wright will lecture on “The Future of the Middle East: Dreams and Shadows” at 7 p.m. on Sunday, April 13 in the Schiff Family Conference Center. Wright is diplomatic correspondent for *The Washington Post* and author of “Dreams and Shadows: The Future of the Middle East” (2008). Her reflections are based on decades of reporting in two dozen countries and draw from first-hand interviews.

Wright's lecture is co-sponsored by Xavier University's Ethics/Religion and Society Program and the American Jewish Committee.

Argentine concert

Voices of Solidarity, Spanish Club and the Student Organization of Latinos are hosting Argentine singer Chany Suarez at 7 p.m. on April 14 in the Gallagher Theatre. Chany Suarez is well-known for her tango and social justice-themed songs. Admission is \$5 and will count as a Spanish cultural event. Please direct any questions to Irene Hodgson, professor of Modern Languages, at hodgson@xavier.edu.

BSA nominations

BSA Board of Elections will be facilitating an open nomination session for each of the executive officers at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, April 9 in Kelley Auditorium. Nominations will ONLY be accepted at this meeting, although you do not have to be in attendance to be nominated. If you have any questions, please contact Jordan Olinger, chair of BSA Board of Elections Committee at olingerjs@xavier.edu or 404-422-3270.

ThomasFest lecture

The Philosophy Department announces the 50th Annual ThomasFest Lecture at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, April 17 in the Conaton Board Room. Rev. David V. Meconi, S.J., assistant professor of theology at St. Louis University, will speak on “Traveling without Moving: Love as Ecstatic Union in Plotinus, Augustine and Dante.” The lecture and reception are free and open to the public. Contact Linda Loomis at x3821, or email loomis@xavier.edu for more information.

Arabic I

The department of modern languages announces that Arabic 101 Beginning Arabic I, is available for the fall 2008 semester. Please contact Dr. David Knutson at knutson@xavier.edu, or call x4240 with any questions.

Charity event

Adventures for Wish Kids will host the 3rd Annual Charity Stripe Challenge presented by Xavier University's Athletic Department. The event will take place from 4-8 p.m., Friday, April 18 in Cintas Center Auxiliary Gym. All proceeds will benefit local children with life-threatening illnesses. Participants get pledges for the number of foul shots made in 10 minutes of shooting. For more information, call 232-5104 or contact Becky Jackson at x3389.

Theology lecture

The Theology and Animals class will begin an investigation on the issue of sexual assault with a short lecture entitled “Women as Animals” by Dr. Elizabeth Farians. All interested students are welcome to attend at 4:15 p.m. today, Wednesday, April 9 at 4:15 p.m. in the Honor's Villa.

Senior board

Senior Board is currently accepting applications to be on the board for the 2008-2009 school year. All currently enrolled students can apply to be on board. The application can be found under the Senior Board group on the portal. Applications will be due Friday, April 11 at the Welcome Desk in GSC. Contact Katie Campbell at campbellk1@xavier.edu or at 614-325-0709.

No price on printing



Newswire photo by Jessica Thimons

Student Sarah Besl will continue to be able to print without paying.

MEGHAN BERNEKING

Assistant Campus News Editor

At this time there are no plans to charge students to print documents on campus computers.

Campus print release stations currently display a 10 cent cost for printing documents, but do not actually require payment.

Doug Hanson of Discovery Services said that this is a result of the software used for the print release stations. The company that created this software also does pay print, explaining the cost display.

Currently, printing costs are covered by a student technology

fee. “We want to continue this for as long as possible,” said Hanson.

A pay print system would only be implemented if printing costs exceeded what was already covered in the technology fee. Charging for prints is one way to conserve resources used for printing.

“Another option is what we have in place now where students release their print jobs once they get to the printer itself, but are not charged. This reduces the number of materials that are printed but never retrieved,” said Alison Morgan, a librarian and assistant director of the Information Resource Center.

Interfaith expands

AMY WINDHORST

Campus News Editor

A space for interfaith prayer is being allocated in Gallagher Student Center for the fall 2008 semester.

As a collaborative effort of a variety of organizations on campus—including the Student Government Association, Student Life, Physical Plant, Romero Center, Peace and Justice, Campus Ministry, Women’s Center and Interfaith students—the project will finally come to fruition as construction begins this summer. “It is a great example of what can be accomplished when different groups can work together,” said SGA President Maggie Meyer.

The permanent prayer space will be located on the second floor of Gallagher and will inhabit the area currently occupied by Project Search. Project Search, a program which aids disabled students, will be relocated to another space on campus. The exact location is still under consideration.

Open 24 hours a day, the interfaith center will provide a place for both personal and group prayer. The space is intended to be religiously neutral, and will supply storage for any necessary religious articles.

The idea of a permanent interfaith prayer space was first conceptualized during a discussion between Xavier’s interfaith students and Campus Ministry in fall 2006. One of these students, Brad Seligmann, has been with the project from the beginning.

“I see this as a first step for all diversity on campus,” said Seligmann. “Xavier has been all about supporting diversity, and that means spiritual support as well.”

Seligmann referenced several universities, including Loyola University and Gonzaga University who provide multiple prayer centers for students of different faith backgrounds. He would like to see Xavier expand similarly.

SGA first became involved with the project in spring 2007, when a student survey showed that a prayer space was in demand. The new student administration took interest in the project and initiated conversations with various leaders on campus, including Campus Ministry’s Joe Shadle, Student Life’s Kathleen Simons and Seligmann.

SGA offered temporary solutions to students while the permanent space was still in discussion.

The Romero Center was able to provide an area for Muslim worship during the month of Ramadan. Additionally, SGA provided a shuttle service to off-campus faith centers during Jewish and Muslim holidays.

Scheduling and maintenance of the center is still to be determined, as well as other logistical factors. For now, management looks to be a joint venture between all shareholding groups.

Physical Plant plans to convert the space in Gallagher this summer. The project is anticipated to cost around \$15,000, as has been set aside by SGA. The center will be operational and open to students this fall.

POLICE NOTES

April 1, 12:10 a.m.– Campus Police were asked to escort a disorderly subject out of Cintas Center.

April 5, 12:52 a.m.– Upon investigating a loud noise complaint in the Village, Campus Police detected an odor of marijuana emanating from the room and subsequently confiscated contraband and paraphernalia.

April 5, 1:15 a.m.– Campus Police assisted Residence Life with two disorderly students in Husman Hall. Several containers of alcohol were confiscated from the students’ rooms.

April 5, 9:46 p.m.– Campus Police discovered that the park gate lock was missing from the Victory Family Park.

POLICE NOTE of the WEEK

April 1, 2:20 p.m.– A student in Brockman Hall reported the theft of a laptop and cell phone from his unlocked room. It was later reported that the items were returned by a subject “wanting to teach a lesson” to the student about leaving his or her room unlocked.

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Through the spirit of collaboration and transparency with which my administration has strove to embody this year, and in light of the one-dimensional report of the SGA budget in last week's edition of the Newswire, I feel an important sense of responsibility to clarify the multi-dimensional functions of the SGA operating budget.

In addition to providing this clarification, however, I would be remiss if I did express my own personal frustration in the fractional report and staff editorial on behalf of the Newswire. I realize that I am especially sensitive because it seemed in the tone of the articles that my integrity in this position was called into question. For that, I only hope that the dedication and hard work of my administration will speak more loudly than that which was portrayed in last week's edition.

It is unfortunate that the primary source of student communication at Xavier is all too often a venue to cast dim and one-dimensional shadows upon groups ranging from Residence Life to Student Life to individual members of administration to BSA to SGA to Peace and Justice, just to name a few. We as students at this institution are taught to challenge and question and to think critically, but I have missed something in my education here if we have been taught that it is noble to criticize and demean others for the sake of one constituent's desire to spark controversy, a goal that has been clearly witnessed this year.

Just this past week, our basketball team made history unmatched by any team in Xavier's past, a group of young men held a rally in collaboration with the Women's Center attended by more than 100 students, a video was made to launch the campus wide initiative to provide executive mentors to all colleges, members from SGA, Physical Plant, Peace and Justice, Campus Ministry, and Student Life met to begin planning the logistics of the first ever inter-faith prayer space on campus, and the All-Card center, with the fervent work of a team of students, launched the off-campus meal plan. It is incredibly frustrating that these notable accomplishments were overlooked, as are so many from week to week.

If I have learned one thing during the time I have been blessed with to serve as SGA President, it is the importance of learning from and respecting the experiences and perspectives of others. I appreciate that all of us have different callings and different responsibilities in our leadership and involvement roles, whether it is allocating a \$793,573 budget or presenting issues to the student body through a newspaper. It is my own personal hope that both now and in the future SGA, the Newswire, and every other group on campus will consistently challenge themselves to operate with the spirit of both learning and working with and for each other

I have emailed the entire budget and budget notes to every student's Xavier email account, as well as a final report of the Executives' progress this year. If questions remain in regard to the SGA budget, particularly surrounding stipends, I encourage you to email me at meyermal@xavier.edu or call at x4249. Thank you for your concern and investment; it has been a true honor serving in this position.

All the best to you,
Maggie Meyer
SGA President, 2007-2008

Edited by:
Molly Fox



Here are a few of the allocation amounts for 08-09...

- Xavier Shuttle-\$40,000
- Readership Program-\$15,000
- Women's Center-\$7,000
- All-Card off campus meal plan-\$7,000
- First Friday Shuttle-\$3,000
- Airport Shuttle-\$4,000
- Lecture Series-\$17,000
- Xavier Christmas-\$4,500
- Gallagher Programming Fund-\$15,000
- X-Treme Fans-\$6,500
- Alternative Breaks-\$19,000
- Club Sports-\$100,000
- RSA-\$10,000
- Senior Board-\$8,000
- SAC Programming Fund-\$142,265

THE POWER OF
X

THE FUTURE OF THE
MIDDLE EAST:
DREAMS AND SHADOWS

Ethics and Globalization: Responding Ethically to a Changing World Community

Robin Wright
Author, diplomatic correspondent,
The Washington Post

SUNDAY, APRIL 13
7:00 p.m.

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Xavier students perform a skit to demonstrate the importance of storytelling in the African tradition. The “grandmother” storyteller taught her audience about the grave consequences of being selfish and stubborn with her story “The Hunter and the Snake.”

A cultural weekend in photos

By Erika Bresee

Above and far right: a visiting drum and dance team provided Xavier students with energetic entertainment as they enjoyed a dinner of traditional African foods at this year’s second annual African Gala on Friday night.

Right: the University of Michigan team took home the first place prize for their outstanding performance at Midwest Masala on Saturday night.



Above: Xavier Senior Nilay Choski is reunited with his “Cinderella,” Junior Monica Miller at the finale of the team’s routine at Midwest Masala.

Right: Miami University’s dance team integrated traditional and popular dancing into the setting of an Indian wedding celebration to express the merging of cultural traditions.



Tuition Runs Out Day

One issue of
the *Newswire*

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When tuition dollars run out,
alumni support kicks in because what you pay
only covers about half of what it costs
to educate a Xavier student.

Stop by the Greenspace on April 16 for food, entertainment
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- STAFF EDITORIALS -

Sounding off

Something we probably don’t tell you enough is that by no means do we consider *the Newswire* to be our paper. It’s your paper; the newspaper of all members of the Xavier University community.

This week, we were incredibly excited when our letters inbox overflowed to the point of us having to fork over the extra cash to put out an extra-large issue.

And since we feel like we’ve done our share of mouthing off this year, we’re going to sit back and let you sound off this issue.

As much as we love telling you what to think, we really prefer it when you think for yourselves.

Join in the conversation. If these pages aren’t a forum for the readers—the Xavier University community—then these pages are just a waste of paper.

Below we’ve reprinted the guidelines for submitting a letter to the editor. So please, let us know what you think. How is Xavier living up to the needs of the students? How is it failing to live up to those needs? How is *the Newswire* serving it’s function? The possibilities are endless.

And we’re simply waiting.

—LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY—

•To submit a letter for publication, send the letter as the main text of an email to Newswire-Oped@xavier.edu.

•The Newswire is published on Wednesdays.

•Letters must be submitted by the Monday prior to publication. *Letters received on Tuesday are unlikely to be published that issue.*

•Letters should be kept to a maximum of 250 words. *This is a point that the letter writers are having a hard time following. PLEASE try to keep your commentary as succinct as possible so everyone gets a chance to be heard.*

•Letters must be signed and include contact information. This information will not be printed, but ensures the validity of the letters we receive.

•The Newswire reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity.

•We are not obligated to print all the letters we receive, but we will ensure that all points of view expressed in the letters we receive are represented.

•Letters are more likely to be published if they are succinct and coherent, especially if they offer a unique point of view.

•If you are a students submitting a letter for publication, please include your class year.

•Finally, if you wish to submit a longer piece in the form of a column (no more than 650 words), you are more than welcome to do so, but please contact the Darren LaCour, the Op-Ed editor in advance. Please, no poetry.

Oops, we did it again

The Newswire would like to extend apologies to anyone who felt slighted, misrepresented or offended by last week’s April Fool’s insert, presented as a mock-newspaper by the name of *the Xavier Repository-Guardian*.

The stories presented in that insert were only intended to amuse and poke fun at various people, events and trends on campus, and were all in good fun. However, we recognize that what may be intended as an innocent joke can sometimes be misconstrued and push people’s buttons.

And so, for all those toes we stepped on, we offer our apologies, because we certainly did not mean to offend.

On the Web: <http://www.xavier.edu/newswire>

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The statements and opinions of the Xavier Newswire are not necessarily those of the student body, faculty or administration of Xavier. The

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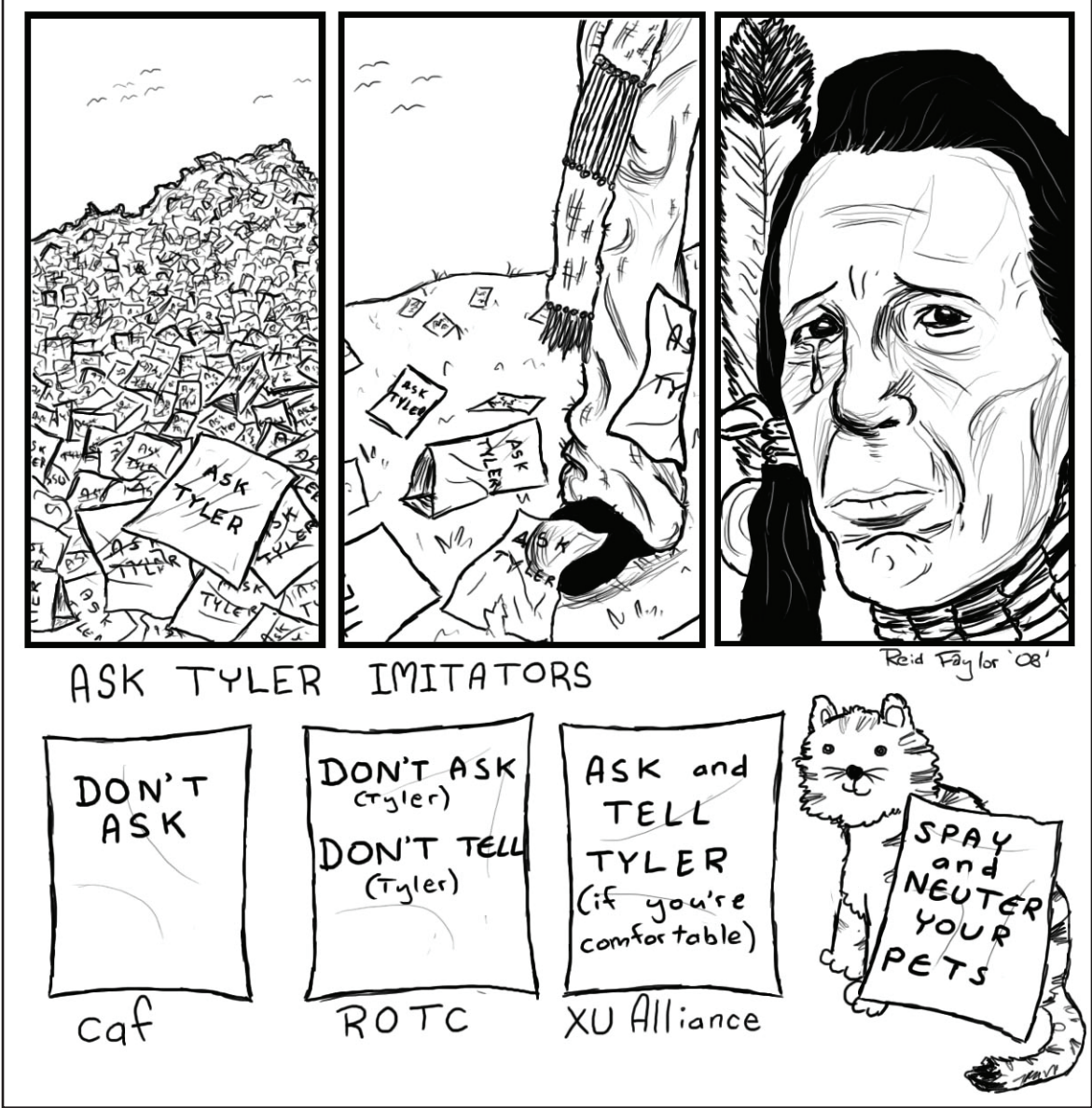
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—LETTERS TO THE EDITOR—

The “GREAT” AMERICAN EMPIRE

To Matthew Lemp, in response to his letter to the editor published in the April 2 edition of *the Xavier Newswire*:

It is appropriate that your justification of torture surrounded Will Durbin’s plea for media coverage of our imperial adventure in Iraq. The fact that we are even having a collective debate about the humanity or validity of torture marks nicely the depths we have sunk to as a nation.

What is truly inhumane, and what most Americans have tacitly given support for by their torpor and inaction, is the fact that while more than 12 percent of our compatriots live below the federal poverty line, our government (we, the people) are spending \$515.6 billion (one sixth of the total federal budget) on our war-making apparatus.

While millions live and die in poverty in our own nation, we make

an excruciating point of inflicting pain and misery on others through our guns, bombs, missiles and yes, soldiers. And yet we debate torture as if by doing away with it we will become a model among nations.

Torture is just one of the thousands of evil masks that our revolutionary project has donned since the 18th century. They must all be peeled back before we can collectively recognize ourselves, our global neighbors and the true scope of both the sins of our past and the penance of our future.

In closing, I want us to imagine what historical figures we as a nation might have tortured, had we been the imperial power of their time and not of ours. George Washington? Thomas Jefferson? Benjamin Franklin? Jesus Christ of Nazareth?

All of them were rebels, traitors, revolutionaries and freedom fight-

ers, perhaps even terrorists.

Torture is but a flea on the back of our beastly sin, our abandonment of the revolution and embrace of empire. No amount of research, Matthew, will ever disprove or convince the millions that have labored and died under the blows of our fasces.

If I can not persuade you, consider asking a Navajo chief, a Mexican woman whose family was forced out of Texas or Arizona by los conquistadores del Norte, or the starving Haitian refugees turned away from our shores again and again to return to our puppet military dictatorships. They can tell you, in exquisite detail, the crimes of empire.

Remember what you are blessing when you next utter “God bless America!”

Michael Patrick Jonagan | ‘10

CARING FOOD CHOICES

I like to think that not many of us wake up each morning thinking of how we would like to harm animals.

Yet, subsidizing their torture is what is in fact done, three times a day, at every meal.

Every egg subsidizes the suffering of a hen who has had its beak cut off and who spends its entire life smashed so that it can’t move—or even stretch a wing.

Each and every egg equals 18 hours of animal suffering.

For every glass of milk a mother cow lows for her baby who was forcibly ripped away and spends its life chained and immobilized in a veal crate.

Many people would choose not to support this if tasty food options were available to them. Vegans do not sit around chewing on cardboard.

Whole Foods Market, 10 minutes from campus, has opened a wondrous all vegan hot bar that includes 3-4 “meats.” No one to whom I have offered their “chicken” or seitan “beef” can distinguish it from animal flesh.

AMMA Restaurant’s new all vegetarian buffet, (10 minutes away on Reading Road) offers a vast variety (different each day) with a dozen Indian delicacies, each one better than the next.

So, surely the powers that be at Xavier could find a food service that can be more creative for its vegan students than a salad. Having these options available will allow more students to try tasty foods and see that they do not need to be swallowing animal flesh in order to be healthy—or to have a great meal.

WHAT MATTERS

Will Durbin eloquently stated in last week’s *Newswire* that he was disappointed in the student body and *the Newswire* on account of their apparent apathy towards the Iraq War. I feel that there are slightly more relevant things for the students and *the Newswire* to address besides the Iraq War, such as the selfless voting habits of our student government and the raise in tuition to pay for expansions that none of the current students will be able to fully enjoy. This is not to say that the Iraq War is not important on the national or global level, but it seems to me that the student body has a right to be more concerned with their studies and how they are going to pay for them than with a war which is not reported on completely or without bias.

— L E T T E R S T O T H E E D I T O R —

WHOSE TIME IS WORTH MORE?

I would first like to state that, in agreement with *the Newswire*, I am not opposed to giving stipends to student leaders at Xavier. However, while reading the article in last week’s *Newswire* regarding the recent increases to these stipends, I was quite surprised at how much the executives of SGA are making. I am one of the many students at Xavier who balances a full 18 hour course load with a part time job. I do not qualify for work study at Xavier, so I was forced to look off-campus for work opportunities. I found a job last year working at a local YMCA in an after school care program. I started 15 cents above minimum wage, making \$7 an hour before taxes. I work nine hours per week, which does not include the half hour it takes me to drive each way. All in all, throughout the school year I make around \$2,016.

This makes for a very busy schedule, but work and school are both important to me.

I also work in the summer at a residential summer camp, meaning that I live at camp with a cabin of kids. It is an amazing and fun job, but a job nonetheless. Throughout nine weeks of camp, working 24 hours a day, six days a week, I make \$1,845.

When I read last week’s article disclosing the executive’s stipends, I decided to do a little calculating. I assume that the executives work year round like I do, so I combined my school year and summer salaries for comparison. In a year, I make \$3,861. To make an equivalent amount to the SGA president, \$9,500, I would have to work all summer at camp and then, during the school year, work 34 hours a week at the YMCA.

I work very hard and put a lot of time and effort into my job, which I am sure that SGA executives do as well. But my question is: why are their “stipends” so much higher than my salary? Do they feel that their work and time is somehow superior to other student employees on campus? Why would I have to increase the hours at my job by 40 percent to make a comparable amount to the president? I understand the amount of time and energy that goes into being an SGA executive and do not contest that the time and energy spent should be compensated. However, I do feel that the stipend should more accurately reflect what an average working student at Xavier makes.

Lindsey Brown | ‘10

QUESTIONABLE COVERAGE

As a Xavier alumnus and a former senator, I was very disappointed in *the Newswire*’s coverage of the new annual budget.

The article and accompanying editorial seemed to take great offense with providing hard-working leaders at Xavier with their first pay increase in 10 years.

That means that as the cost of school, living expenses and the SGA budget have all risen steadily, the executives and coordinators have not seen their pay increase.

Each year with no raise, they actually earned a smaller percentage of the total budget. If having stipends in the first place is not wrong, as the editorial admits, then how can updating them to track with economic realities be so offensive?

This was a budget prepared by an outgoing president and approved with no votes against it by a 20 member senate, only two of whom

could expect increased remuneration as vice president and senate coordinator.

In their capacities as student representatives, none of them voted against this budget (*Editor’s note: there was one dissenting vote*).

Why weren’t these alarm bells rung by the editorial before the budget was passed? If this is so offensive, why wasn’t there debate when it could be meaningful?

While I respect *the Newswire* for divulging its own compensation information, there was no mention of how that has changed over the last 10 years.

I highly doubt that there haven’t been similar (and deserved) pay raises for *Newswire* staffers.

To begrudge other students for receiving similar fair compensation seems petty and destructive.

Blake Johnson | ‘06
Former SGA Senator

MORE THAN MONEY

The Newswire under-reported the processes followed when Sodexo’s contract was last renewed. The “Not With Our Money” students raised concerns and Fr. Graham charged the Justice Across the Campus Committee with investigating. Basing our work on Catholic social teaching, which affirms the right of workers to choose to unionize regardless of what we think they ought to do, the subcommittee I chaired spent a semester meeting with Sodexo, “Not With Our Money” students, Interfaith Committee on Worker Justice, VP for Student Development, other Xavier officials, SGA, the union and workers; did academic research on NRLB elections and different card check processes. We also talked with JUSTICE and Jesuit universities that had terminated their contracts with Sodexo and read Sodexo union policies and the “Not With Our Money” website. Our report to Fr. Graham was hundreds of pages long.

Sodexo sold its stock in Corrections Corporations of America. It was required to accept card check—without neutrality—at Xavier and agreed to accept card check at other universities unless the universities opposed it. The union was given a deadline by which to have 50 percent plus one workers with union cards confirmed by a neutral third

party or go away for some years—a deadline it met to become the collective bargaining unit for food service workers at Xavier. Xavier renewed its contract with Sodexo with the understanding that we would continue to have constructive engagement with them.

I am not an expert on food choices, but Sodexo manager Dan Yeager has responded to requests for local suppliers, organic foods, fair trade coffee and more recycling. I share your concerns regarding Aramark and Chartwells—and would like to know more about Sodexo’s role in Iraq—but I am much more comfortable with Sodexo than I was a few years ago.

Raise questions and concerns, but have a little more faith in the internal processes of a university where many of us take very seriously the Jesuit documents stating that the promotion of justice in the service of faith is an absolute requirement. Don’t be so quick to assume that the university only bases decisions on finances.

Dr. Irene B. Hodgson
Professor, Department of Modern Languages
Interim Director of the Academic Service Learning Semesters
Justice Across the Campus Committee

SATISFIED WITH SODEXO

In reference to your article that appeared in *the Newswire*, week of March 26, I represent the union employees that are members of the UniteHere Local 12 chapter.

As a result of the union contract between Sodexo and the union, the majority of the employees are in favor of the union, mainly because of the benefits that we now enjoy, such as affordable health insurance, better wages and a union pension plan, with all funds being provided by Sodexo.

Each year when school closes for the summer, all employees are out of work; however, many of the Sodexo employees are dedicated and return each year because they enjoy their jobs providing service to the students.

The union has helped stabilize the workforce by entering into a collective bargaining agreement with Sodexo, which has made the employees a part of the business.

This is because of employee benefits that they now receive, that were unaffordable by employees who only worked eight months within a year.

We appreciate our jobs, and enjoy providing the highest quality of service to the students, and we are looking forward to returning in August, regardless of who the food service provider might be.

I hope, it will be Sodexo.

Don Spell
UniteHere Local 12

REALLY ASKING THE RIGHT QUESTIONS?

The Newswire’s coverage of the 2008-2009 SGA budget, which focused only on stipends, was an opportunity lost to shed light on the progressive changes that will affect all students next year.

The agenda of the one-dimensional front-page article, “SGA senate gives executives pay raise, budget examined” was clear from the on-set and very disappointing. *The Newswire* gave generous coverage to five students opposed to stipends, not to balance those interviews with any senator or outside students with the opposite perspective aside from President Meyer. I was shocked to see that *the Newswire* quoted me without an interview, only to contort my explanation of stipends given in an unrelated and outdated email written over the summer to Eddie Johnson.

Not only did the front page article seem agenda-oriented, but so too did the editorial, “Raising the right questions.” The article’s tone was offensive, calling SGA names that didn’t even make sense: “absolutely one of the most public relations inept organizations.”

Beyond that sarcasm, however, was an ineffective message calling students to arms by encouraging them to attend the April 7 senate meeting to voice concerns about the SGA budget. Maybe better late than never, but if *the Newswire* was truly invested in seeking to change the allocations SGA made, that message would have been timely were it delivered before the budget was voted on and passed, a process that spanned over two weeks.

While I recognize that it is important to raise critical questions about how Xavier operates, *the Newswire* is raising the wrong questions. *The Newswire* should feel more of an obligation to educate students on how the other 94 percent of the SGA budget is being spent. Pre-Game Madness and Midwest Masala became line items, and O’Connor Sports Center will receive \$33,643 next year to ensure earlier weekday hours and fitness trainers. Student clubs and organizations increased by \$28,146.28, the Fine Arts fund increased to \$7,500 and *the Newswire* increased by \$6,000 to assist with color

printing costs. SGA is spending its money responsibly and funding very exciting changes.

Last week, I sat through my final senate meeting at Xavier, yet I am still very personally offended by *the Newswire* for reasons bigger than its opinion of SGA, as our newspaper continually casts such a negative light on the university as a whole. Realize that sarcasm and negativity only breed sarcasm and negativity, and use your media to ask worthwhile questions and highlight the positive undertakings that build Xavier up as a community.

In five or 10 years, I want to open up *the Newswire* and read articles about our latest Final Four run on the front page, not a petty argument over stipends. I’ll hope that by then *the Newswire* will have put its grudges and negative agendas to bed and will be invested in leaving a legacy of something positive that makes every student proud to be a part of Xavier University.

Jennifer Downing | ‘08
2007-2008 Senate Coordinator

THE POWER OF UNIONS

Human labor is crucial in many ways for all of us. But as Pope John Paul II says in *Laborens Exercens*, “On Human Work,” human labor has value not just because of what it produces but because human labor is performed by the human person.

As labor priest Monsignor George Higgins often emphasized, labor unions have value not just for the protection of individual workers but to better contribute to Xavier, to the community, to other workers on campus and off. (See Economic Justice for All, Pastoral Letter of the U.S. Catholic Bishops No. 106. “Workers must use their collective power to contribute to the well-being of the whole community.” On Human Labor No. 20)

Labor unions are participative and democratic. If a labor union

is not what it should be, it’s the responsibility of its members to make it better. Economic Justice for All, U.S. Catholic Bishops No. 103: “Frequently employers have greater bargaining power...The provision of wages and other benefits sufficient to support a family in dignity is a basic necessity...workers should have adequate health care, security for old age or disability, unemployment compensation, healthful working conditions, weekly rest, periodic holidays for recreation and leisure, and reasonable security against arbitrary dismissal.”

The food we eat has many connections. We are rightly concerned about the clothes in Xavier’s bookstore. Under what conditions are they produced? We should be even more concerned about the food that becomes part of us. Does the

farmer get a fair price? Do farm workers get a just wage? Do those who process our food have safe and healthy working conditions? Are the animals we eat treated cruelly? Is the food that we eat healthy? Produced in a sustainable way that protects the environment? Xavier wants a food service sensitive and responsive to these issues.

One approach to Xavier’s present situation is to insist that the present union be recognized, whatever food service is chosen. Other things being equal, renewing the contract with Sodexo is safer for the workers.

Father Benjamin J. Urmston, S.J., PhD.
Director Emeritus of Peace and Justice Programs.

— MORE LETTERS —

THE RED HEALTH CARE SCARE

I picked up a pamphlet titled, “I Want You to be an Informed Voter” in GSC. After reading the pamphlet, I was only misinformed. The College Republicans published the pamphlet with regard to universal, or in their words, “socialized,” healthcare, using the word “socialized” to scare all of the readers that the United States is going to have a communist revolution by supporting universal health care. That’s far from the case.

We do not have the best health care system in the world. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, there were 47 million Americans without health insurance in 2006, about one in seven people. Save the Children, an international organization that ranks world infant mortality rates, ranks the United States as second to last in modern nations.

Adopting a universal health care policy does not mean lines and shortages. Any universal health care policy that the United States chooses to adopt will function similarly to our current system in almost every aspect, but we will not be denying people the right

to medical care because of their income level.

Let me also remind you that we do have a socialized health care policy in the United States for the elderly—Medicare. We also have a socialized education system. Every child, regardless of race, gender, religion, income, etc., has the right to attend school, yet those same children are deprived of the right to medical treatment if their parents do not have health insurance. Our government should support the health and education of every child.

Finally, as to the projected 15 percent tax increase, no one wishing to remain in Congress would support it. I’m not claiming that a universal health care policy will not raise taxes, but rather that we should value human life over money. For a political party that claims to be pro-life, to be anti-universal health care seems absolutely ridiculous.

If you want to be an informed voter, do your own research. Don’t trust a pamphlet that insults your intelligence.

Amanda Kazmierski | ‘09

PAMPHLET PRESENTS PROBLEMS

After picking up a pamphlet in GSC titled “I Want You To Be A Well Informed Voter!” I was disturbed to find such an ill-equipped source of information regarding universal healthcare. That said, my opinion here should not be viewed as an attempt to deliver the full, balanced perspective on U.S. healthcare, but rather a request that our community think critically about the issue.

In the pamphlet, distributed by one of the student clubs on campus, the concept of universal healthcare is presented in such a way that you would think McCarthy himself wrote it. If universal healthcare is called “socialized” healthcare, then why not everything else that is publicly run in society: socialized crime control, socialized environmental regulation, socialized justice?

The pamphlet describes the revenue made in health services as a percentage of the total income of U.S. citizens, which is calculated to 14.46 percent, and hypothesizes

this to be the increase in tax collection from each citizen. One of the main arguments for a universal healthcare system contends that anywhere from 31 to 50 cents of each dollar spent in the current healthcare system goes towards administrative overhead costs, while a universal healthcare system with centralized administration would be less than 10 cents of each dollar (some argue even closer to three).

Overall, it comes down to the reality that our health system is not only the most expensive one in the world, but also one of the most ineffective. Preventative healthcare does not exist since we apply the competitive nature of a free market economy to our health, and thereby make the most money by making people sick and keeping them sick. Please see the “Physicians for a National Health Program” website (www.pnhp.org) for more information and statistics.

Julia Alexander | ‘08

SODEXO: UNIONS AND COST CONCERNS

In regards to Peter Fricke’s letter to the editor, we believe that unions provide an important counter to management interests, particularly considering the well-documented instances of coercion and fear of reprisal in some modern American work places. Unions, by design, must also confront the continued viability of jobs in a globalizing market and therefore cannot seek more wages for less work.

The key is making the quality of service both in eating and moral concerns match the product given. Simply because a cheaper alternative is available does not mean such a product should be used. Additionally, there is little to no proof that it is impossible to reduce costs while being environmentally conscious. Furthermore, although a firm’s revenue from one more unit of production equals its cost, welfare economics, which considers societal effects, would show

this is not necessarily the socially optimal output.

We respect dissenting opinions and would be more than willing to meet outside the press to better register student concern and knowledge on the issue. The answers are difficult and the conversation is extremely important to addressing labor, environmental and cost-efficiency concerns that our Jesuit values call us to constantly address.

Lastly, we encourage any concerned members of the Xavier community to attend a meeting at 5:30 p.m. on April 9 in Alter 216, where several Sodexo workers will share both their concerns about the food service bidding process and their experience with their union.

Matthew Mellon | ‘09
Brett Simmons | ‘09
Justin Cancelliere | ‘09

(see the full text at www.xavier.edu/newswire)

PDA: awkward turtle-style

Ladies and gentlemen, there is a problem on Xavier’s campus. No, it is not the problem of parking, the huge discrimination lawsuit, or even the food service provider debate, it’s something seen on a daily basis. I am talking about PDA, not the traditional kind that’s cute and enjoyable, but the other kind known as Public Displays of Awkwardness.

Yes, awkwardness, something that is almost unavoidable in our human nature, but sadly enough, we don’t do enough about it to prevent our awkward moments from shining through. There are a plethora of awkward moments that are found here on a daily basis, but I would like to point out two specific examples of awkwardness that just take things to the extreme.

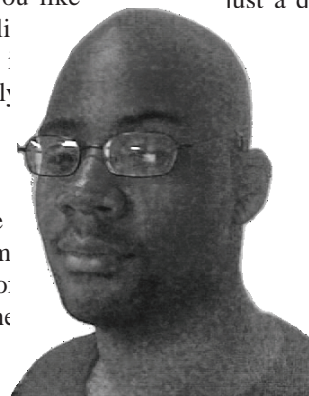
I know that many of you lovely people are in solid, working relationships and that you like to express your feelings on a regular basis to the public. This is perfectly acceptable when it’s a peck on the cheek, a big hug, or even a simple kiss on the lips. My only problem with these displays of affection is when they go from cute to ridiculously awkward and startling.

The first example that comes to mind is when a lovely couple in line for some fries at dinner decided that in order to celebrate their newly acquired fries, they wanted to take 30 sec-

onds to make out right in front of me. Now, at first I thought it was just a quick smooch, but no, it quickly turned into an awkward moment. I want to ask, why the need to make out because of me fries? I don’t want to know what you did after Xavier beat WVU overtime, that would have been too much.

What other examples of Public Displays of Awkwardness drives Brandon up the wall? Log on to

www.xavier.edu/newswire, and link to the Opinions & Editorials page to find out!



brandon
MCCLAIN

It’s your life, so choose it

Dear pending graduates, I’d prefer not to label you guys as a salty class but I’ve been hearing a lot of negativity from you lately. I get that some of you may not know what you’re doing next year—I mean, besides pay for your own phone bill (I know, I know it was a “family plan!”), and I can see how this may be a stressful time in your life: all of your friends seem to be leaving you, you will soon be poor, lonely and on top of that, everyone keeps asking what your plan is—especially your parents.

What you’d really like to do is lounge around all summer like you’ve always done, but the pressures of the “real world” won’t allow this.

Actually, you know what, pending graduate? I may be a mere sophomore, but that sounds pretty darn amazing to me.

Don’t roll your eyes, I can see how the never-ending questions can be frustrating, but just think, seniors (or should I say graduating seniors), for the first time in your life, rather than being told what to do, you are being asked. Rather than having your life mapped out for you as it likely has been for the past 17-plus years of schooling, you get to choose what to do next.

It’s finally time to do whatever it is that you want to do.

Granted, you probably will have to provide the resources needed for this task, but you will have huge newfound freedom. Think about it. Still stuck? OK, hypothetically, say you have at least enough money saved for a few months rent somewhere, yes? With this, you could pick a city, find a place to stay and find a job waiting tables at night, which will give you the resources of money, food, beer and a social network to start from.

If you spend the morning hours finding a “real” job, (resume, networking, research, interviews) and spend the evening hours working, you will be living the life in no time.

What is stopping you from starting anew and making your own

mistakes? Maybe you will crash and burn, but this is life. Maybe I take the optimistic view because as a youngest child, I’ve always lived my life anxiously awaiting new and exciting upcoming opportunities and embracing change. Maybe I’m being naive, but I have a hunch that you will look back on this time later in life and realize just

how amazing an opportunity it is.

I therefore challenge you, class of 2008, to view this time in a positive light. Choose what you want to do and do it—stop caring what everyone else thinks or what your friends have planned.

It is your time and you must embrace it. It is a rightfully selfish time in your life.

Utilize Xavier’s resources to aid your decision, make a plan and stick to it. I wish you luck in your future endeavors.

It’s time to start living the life you’ve been preparing to live for the past 21 years.



madeline
LAFAVE

Reviving recess

Hello once again. It’s been a while since I last spoke to you, right when March Madness was kicking off. Speaking of March Madness, did you guys see the Championship Game with Memphis and Kansas? Not to be cocky, but if you check back to the issue from Jan. 16, I predicted the Kansas Jayhawks would be the National Champions this year. Booyah! (Editor’s note: He also predicted that the Patriots would be the Super Bowl Champions, but we all know how they choked it up against the Giants.)

I don’t know if anyone else has noticed but the weather’s been getting a lot nicer. The sun is shining and the skies are blue. The birds are singing and the flowers are blossoming. Most people would be pumped about all these things, but not me. I get really frustrated at this time of the year because school seems to take away from the fun and joy that arise with the warm weather.

I hate being inside for class on a nice warm day. It’s like a big tease, or like starving to death in front of a nice Chinese buffet. It’s times like these when I miss my childhood. I miss being able to go outside to play tag and four-square. I miss being able to lie in the grass and eat popsicles (OK, I still do that). Oh, the good ol’ days.

Which brings me to my bright idea.

Xavier University would make a lot of students happy if they imple-

mented mid-day recesses during common hour.

Who could complain with the chance to play outside?

You’re all probably thinking, “What the heck, recess?” Just hear me out. I’ve got some legit reasons why we should have recess.

I haven’t been able to just drop all my obligations and be carefree and happy since elementary school. Playing games like tetherball and basketball on the blacktop can do wonders for your body and soul.

You can get fresh air and exercise. The freshman 15 would stand no chance.

Homework, tests and projects are such major concerns for all of us, but sometimes

it’s all right to leave the library or your room for an hour to just get outside.

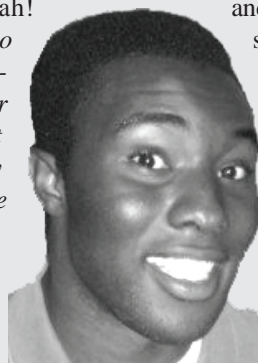
I’m also about 99 percent sure that the professors wouldn’t mind a break outside either.

I commend the teachers that are thoughtful enough to have their classes outside, but let’s face it, it’s just not the same. War wages in your mind as you grapple with: “Should I pay attention or should I look at the cute purple butterfly?”

Trust me, those are violent battles, but looking at the cute butterfly always emerges the victor.

As it gets warmer, embrace the outdoors and take time to relax.

Some students don’t have the luxury of a nice and warm outdoor scene (example: the University of Alaska or Oxford).



mfreke
AKPANINYE

WEDNESDAY

April 9



Shhh! Don't tell anyone my deep dark secrets!

Since there are only two short weeks left of Calendar City (I know, citizens, I know...be strong...), I have decided to come clean on a number of deep dark secrets that I've been holding back for years... First of all, I am not a vegetarian. I always say that I am. Go ahead and ask me next time you see me on campus. I will tell you I'm a vegetarian. I am lying. Shortly after the conversation I will likely eat something that used to be alive. I guess I always figure that as long as I think I'm a vegetarian and am not eating meat at the time you're asking me, I can consider myself a vegetarian.

A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step.



Mmmm...I sure do love being a bad vegetarian.

Calendar City

By Briana Hansen. To place an item in the calendar, mail to hansenb@xavier.edu.

THURSDAY

April 10

At 11 p.m. tonight, "Charlie Wilson's War" will be showing in the Gallagher Student Center Theatre. Sometimes when people are talking to me, I zone out and start attempting to turn their facial features into a Picasso-like painting. I wonder what they'd look like if their eyes were inside their mouth or something. It's not that I'm not interested in what you're saying, I'm just probably not interested in what you're saying. That's all.



This is how I probably see your face. If I'm even paying attention...

FRIDAY

April 11

Sometimes I pretend to be on my cell phone just to avoid conversations with people. Then, I continue to make fun of people who get on their cell phones to avoid conversation. It's hypocritical. This I know.

My favorite article of clothing that I had when I was little was a red cape that had glittery gold writing. I used to wear it around my house even when I wasn't playing with somebody else. I used to cry because my parents wouldn't let me sleep in it.



This is the adult version of my cape. Cool and stylish.

SATURDAY

April 12

Last issue I accidentally lied. I told you that "Voices for Change" was last weekend. It is actually this weekend. It will be this Friday through Sunday at 7:30 p.m. in the Studio Theatre. Whoops! Go see it this weekend! According to my notes, which I'm certain have not been tampered with at all, today is official-ly "Patrick Stevenson Appreciation Day" with a keynote speech by Stephen Colbert. This will be taking place in Patrick Stevenson's imagination all day today. Be sure to stop by!

SUNDAY

April 13

Also according to my notes, which again I'm sure have not been tampered with at all, today is the first day of "Briana Hansen Sucks Week." The celebrations begin at sundown with a BBQ on the greenspace. There will be ice cream and lemonade for all! Briana Hansen SUUUUUCCCCCK-KKKKKs. Huh, I don't remember writing that in my notes.



They're roasting themselves! Yummy!

MONDAY

April 14

Today there will be an Argentine singer at 7 p.m. in the GSC Theatre. Another deep dark secret... when I was in high school, I snuck out of my friend's house (with her) one night to spend like 15 minutes with my oh-so-dreamy 3-week boyfriend. Things were so perfect until we both realized we didn't really like each other.



I also bought the sheet music and taught myself the songs. True story. When I was in second grade, I wrote my own version of "Fiddler on the Roof" and made my friends act it out with me while I played Tevye. My mom made us sandwiches. I was being bossy. I thought we could perform it for the entire school when school started, then maybe take it on tour.

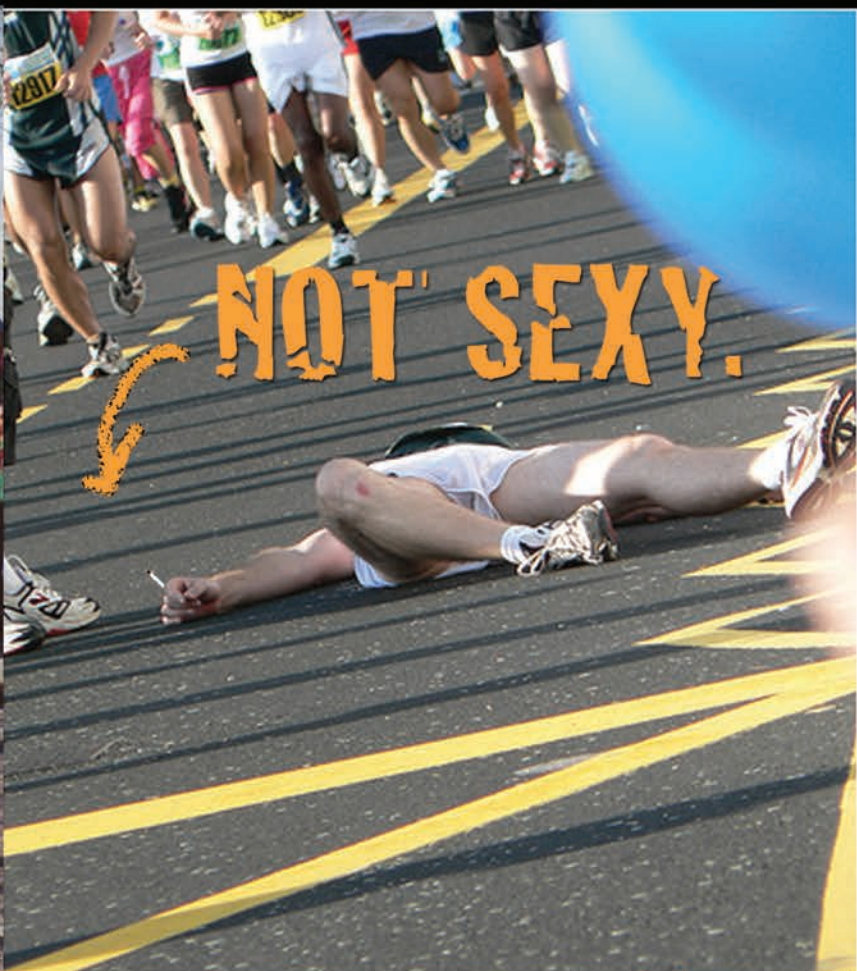
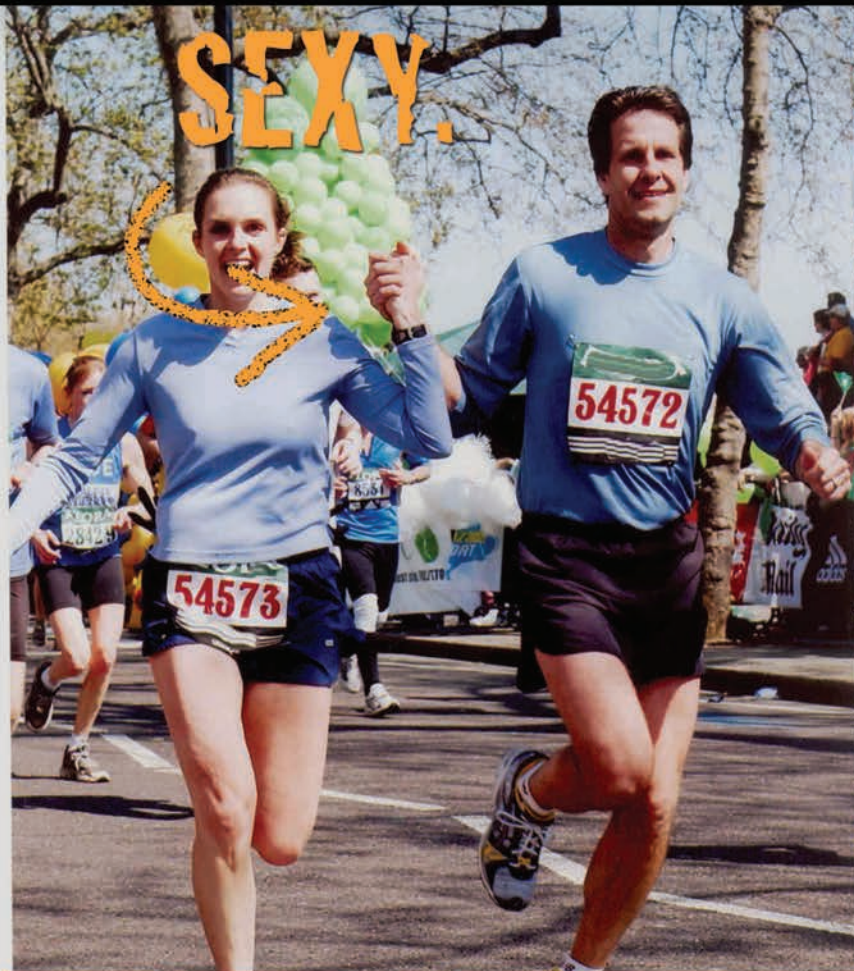
TUESDAY

April 15

This is my deepest, darkest, most embarrassing secret I have yet to reveal to you, Calendar citizens...and to the entire world. I secretly listen to Hannah Montana when her song comes on the radio. I've listened to it so much that I know the majority of the lyrics and find myself singing them in my head or aloud. I'm not proud of it, but admitting my weakness is the first step to recovery.



Dang it, Miley Cyrus! Quit singing your catchy tunes! Quit it now!



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BRIEFS

Doug Tift, Editor
Sports Desk: 745-2878
newswire-sports@xavier.edu

Tennis team heads to NCAAs



PHOTO COURTESY GOXAVIER.COM

Sophomore Chris Herlinger.

The Xavier University men’s tennis team earned its first A-10 Conference Championship since joining the confernece in the 1995-96 season with a 4-0 sweep over top-seeded George Washington at the A-10 tournamnet. The victory gives Xavier the conference’s automatic bid to the NCAA tennis tournament. It will be Xavier’s first ever NCAA appearance.

Xavier won the doubles point by taking two of the three matches and then proceeded to clinch the victory with wins in each of the top three flights. Juniors Doug Matthews and Ra’ees Ismail and sophomore Chris Herrlinger all won their matches in three sets.

Head coach Eric Toth said of the victory, “The top of our lineup got it done for us today and I couldn’t be happier for this team.”

Baseball team remains afloat in A-10 standings
3-3 week includes two wins over A-10 opponent Richmond

EMILY NEUBAUER
Staff Writer

The 2008 Xavier Baseball season is officially in full swing.

Xavier won three of the five games played this past week, including a doubleheader sweep Sunday.

Xavier jumped out to a 9-1 lead over the Wright State Raiders last Tuesday.

The Raiders refused to give up and banged out 11 more runs of their own to defeat the Musketeers by a final score of 12-11. Sophomore Bobby Freking went 3-for-5 on the day, scoring two runs and tallying two RBIs.

Relief pitcher Ben Thomas took the loss for Xavier, giving up four runs in three innings.

On Wednesday, Xavier was able to defeat the Indiana State Sycamores by a score of 6-5.

ISU played small ball in the first scoring one run via a single, bunt, stolen base and ground out.

After the third, Xavier led 4-1 on a solo homerun by Zac Richard and doubles by both Adam Pasono and Steve Brown.

Xavier led 6-3 going into the ninth. ISU attempted a comeback, scoring two runs in the top of the frame.

Stellar defense and pitching secured the 6-5 victory. Brian Muransky got the win, striking out four and walking only one in six innings of work.

Jordan Conley recorded his third save of the season.

In the A-10 home opener, a doubleheader against the Richmond

Spiders, Xavier went 2-2.

The Musketeers banged out 19 hits in both games with junior Steve Brown leading the way, going an impressive 9-for-10 from the plate.

Xavier won the first game 14-3 and the second game 14-5.

In the first game, Xavier had three big scoring innings as players put up four runs in the second, five in the third and four more in the eighth.

In the second game, Xavier enjoyed more offensive dominance, scoring two runs in the first, third and sixth, and seven in the seventh.

Junior Charlie Leesman won the first game, going 7.2 innings. Senior Michael Lucas earned the win in the second game, striking out a career-high nine batters in seven innings of work.

The final game of the series wasn’t as exciting, as Xavier fell 9-2.

Zac Richard led the Musketeers offensively, going 2-for-3. XU scored their two runs in the bottom of the first.

But Richmond answered with four of their own in the second and five in the third. Sophomore Danny Rosenbaum took the loss for Xavier, going only 2.2 innings.

The Musketeers now stand at 12-15 overall, and 6-3 in the Atlantic 10 Conference as they head into Wednesday’s game with Bowling Green at home, then travel on Friday to Charlotte for a three game set.



NEWSWIRE PHOTO BY DANI MEINERS

Sophomore Zac Richard hit his fifth home run of the season against Indiana State on April 2.

Ultimate earns best finish in team history

Xavier’s club Ultimate team earned its best finish in its five-year history this weekend, finishing eighth out of 25 teams in its section.

Entering the tournament ranked 13th, Xavier surprised a number of teams by finishing 4-1 in pool play, with their only loss coming

to Ohio University by one controversial point. The season ended via an 11-15 loss to Bowling Green to determine the seventh bid to regionals.

“I have never been more proud to be a part of Xavier Ultimate,” said junior captain Aaron Armbruster.



PHOTO BY SCOTT OSWALD. STORY BY ANDREW CHESTNUT

Freshman Chris Place “lays out” in a match against Oberlin College.



Classifieds



For classified orders and information, call Zach Nolden at **513-745-3561** or email him at **Newswire-Classifieds@xavier.edu**

Help Wanted

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Babysitter needed. Begin around May 10, continue thru August. Approximately 20 to 25 hours per week for 4 year old boy in Hyde Park. Must have own car. Call Ann 484-4092.

2008 Summer Opportunity. Professional couple in a northern Cincinnati suburb is looking for a fun, dependable and flexible person to help out over summer break. Help needed to transport 2 teenage kids to and from activities and monitoring whereabouts. Must have your own car and have excellent driving record. Hours may vary depending on activities; about 30 hours/week. The right person will receive very good pay! References required. If interested call 513-872-3829 or email Runro1@aol.com with your letter of interest, work history and references.

For Rent

Houses For Rent. 2, 3, and 4 bedroom houses available for this winter, next summer and next school year, 2 blocks from campus, clean, fully equipped, off street parking, laundry, next to other student housing, please call 513-616-3798 or email cit545@aol.com

Houses still available for 2008 school year. All with air conditioning, free laundry and parking. Call Matt (513) 587-9884 or matthew.dias@ge.com Large Two Bedroom Apartment with bonus room. Free heat & water included. Two blocks to campus. Off street parking and laundry on site. \$590 per month. Must see, call (513) 673-4946

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Chatting with Bobinski

XU AD discusses Committee, 08-09 Schedule

Xavier Associate Vice President and Athletic Director Mike Bobinski is in his 10th year with the university and was recently named to the NCAA Basketball Tournament Committee. *Newswire* sports editor Doug Tifft caught up with Bobinski to discuss the Tournament Committee, the 2008-09 schedule and some other topics of interest to the Xavier basketball community:

Newswire: Congratulations on your NCAA Tournament Committee selection. Can you go over some of your responsibilities?

Mike Bobinski: First of all it's a five year term. I'm one of 10 individuals who serve on the committee. I believe the official name is the Division I Men's Basketball Committee. We do the most visible thing, which is select and seed the teams for the NCAA Tournament each year. On top of that, there are other things that the group does that I think are pretty interesting. The group is the primary liaison with CBS for the television agreement that covers the basketball championship and all of the other NCAA sports that are part of that whole contract. So having that relationship with the CBS folks will be very interesting.

Picking sites for the Final Four, first and second rounds and the regionals going forward is something that this committee gets involved with, as well as the operations of all of those things. I will be on site for every year going forward at a first and second round, a regional and then the Final Four in some capacity with that committee where we will be responsible for what goes on at those different sites.

And then officiating also. This group gets involved in selecting officials to work the NCAA Tournament and also making a decision on which officials move on through the tournament and ultimately make their way to the Final Four.

XN: What are some of the out-



PHOTO COURTESY GOXAVIER.COM
Xavier Associate Vice President and Athletic Director Mike Bobinski.

of-conference highlights for next year?

MB: We have some returns that are still part of existing agreements. We go to Kansas State, actually on their campus. The agreement was two neutral site games and then one game at their place.

Then we go to Virginia, Auburn will return the game to our place, obviously at Cincinnati and Miami (OH) at home. We are going to start a series with Butler. That series will begin at Cintas Center next year. Then we will return that the following year. We are playing at the ESPN event in Puerto Rico in the early season of next year, the second week of the regular season. So we will get three really great games in Puerto Rico. I think some of the other teams in the field are Southern California and Missouri. When we go to those events we get great competition like we have in recent years. So we will continue to do that again next year.

There is still a highly anticipated game that we are not ready to announce yet. We think it would be a big time game of interest for our program. We won't be at home, but it will be at a neutral site. It will be a great one. It will be a national television game, on CBS actually. So it should be a great game if we are able to pull it off.

Plenty of contenders in A-10 in 08-09

TYLER GROTE
Staff Writer

The 2008 season provided a much needed revival for the Atlantic 10.

There were three teams ranked in the top 25 at one point, with the addition of several other teams hanging in the top 100 in the Ratings Percentage Index.

Even though Xavier would be the only A-10 team to stay in the top 25, March was more welcoming to the A-10 as it was extended three invitations to the NCAA Tournament.

While Xavier, St. Joseph's and Temple were preparing for their first round games, four other A-10 teams in Charlotte, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Dayton were also continuing their seasons in the NIT.

With Xavier reaching the Elite Eight and Massachusetts reaching the finals of the NIT, it's safe to say this was a great year for the conference.

But what's in store for next year? Can we expect to see three or more nationally ranked A-10 teams again?

It's a possibility. Many teams are set to bring in a decent recruiting class, along with the returning of some of their prime time players.

St. Bonaventure set up shop in the cellar of the A-10 last year, and from the look of things, they should get comfortable. Their best recruit Malcolm Eleby comes with a grade of 79 by ESPN. Not to mention their leading scorer Michael Lee graduated.

George Washington had an uncharacteristically bad season. Their leading scorer, Rob Diggs, will be back but it doesn't look like they'll have any stand-out recruits to rely on.

Saint Louis could be a real contender next year. They are returning their two leading scorers in Kevin Lisch and Tommie Liddell. Remember Lisch, Xavier fans? By the way, St. Louis is bringing three



PHOTO COURTESY OWLSPORTS.COM
Temple senior gaurd Dionte Christmas is the only First Team All Atlantic-10 player returning in 2008-09.

guys graded in the 80s by ESPN.

Temple can expect an early holiday in November next year; Dionte Christmas is coming back and bringing his 19.7 points per game with him. Not a real solid recruiting class for Temple, though.

Duquesne may provide some problems next year. They're returning their top two point scorers in Shawn James and Kojo Mensah. They're bringing in a point guard in Johnny Higgins with a grade of 77.

Charlotte is bringing back Lamont Mack and his 12.8 points per game, along with a forward in Charlie Coley who grabs just over six rebounds per game. Charlotte is bringing in a guard that's deadly from the arc in Shamarr Bowden who had originally committed to Virginia Tech.

A young Richmond team is bringing back three guys who averaged double digits. There could be something there.

La Salle's Rodney Green and his 13.4 points per game will return, along with their 6'8" forward Jerrell Williams who grabbed over six rebounds a game. Other than that, their top recruit was graded in the 40s.

Rhode Island should be right back up in the mix with Jimmy Barron and Kaheim Seawright (who averaged nearly a double-double in points and rebounds last year) returning. They are also bringing in an excellent rebounder in Orion Outbridge who is 6-9 and is graded in the high 70s.

Aside from Brenton Butler returning, Fordham can look forward to their new point guard, Jiovanny Fontan, who's graded in the 80s.

Expect nothing different from Saint Joseph's; Ahmad Nivens and Tasheed Carr are both coming back. Incoming freshman Bryant Irwin will look to fill in for graduated Pat Calathes and try to compensate for his 7.5 rebounds a game.

outs. He has specifically demanded to be traded to the Patriots, then the Dolphins and now the Dallas Cowboys. After watching this charade go on over the past few months, I can say Chad Johnson doesn't want more money, better coaching or even a trade; Chad Johnson just wants to be seen. Constantly. The interview with ESPN's Kenny just solidified that feeling.

All Bengals fans can do is hope that their team steps up and takes

The EXTREMELY premature edition of the Newswire 'expert' picks:

Tyler Grote, Staff Writer
Rookie of the Year:
Paul Williams, Dayton
Player of the Year:
Dionte Christmas, Temple
A-10 Champion:
Xavier

Scott Mueller, Asst. Sports Editor:
Rookie of the Year:
Brett Thompson, Saint Louis
Player of the Year:
Dionte Christmas, Temple
A-10 Champion:
Xavier

Doug Tifft, Sports Editor:
Rookie of the Year:
Brett Thompson, Saint Louis
Player of the Year:
Ahmad Nivins, Saint Joseph's
A-10 Champion:
Saint Joseph's

Pat Stevenson, Editor-in-Chief
Rookie of the Year:
Paul Williams, Dayton
Player of the Year:
Derrick Brown, Xavier
A-10 Champion:
Temple

How about our neighbors up I-75? Chris Wright along with three other starters are coming back. Oh, by the way, Dayton is bringing in two outstanding freshmen in Paul Williams and 6'10" Josh Benson. Both received grades in the high 80s by ESPN.

As for the Musketeers, nothing to worry about. Returning starters Derrick Brown, Jason Love and C.J. Anderson will be joined by 6'11" center Kenny Frease and Michigan's Mr. Basketball, Brad Redford, who has been labeled as one of the "best shooters in the country" by ESPN. Don't forget about Pennsylvania's Gatorade Player of the Year, Brian Walsh.

It should be an interesting season in the Atlantic 10 conference.

the salary cap hit in order to get rid of the distraction that is Chad Johnson. Pray that "Chad does what's right for Chad" and takes his whining act to Dallas (or Miami or New England or...). If they keep him, Bengals fans won't just have to endure the "Eighty-Five" act or "Ocho-Cinco" act or "Seven-Eleven" act. Apparently there is a newly acquired alter ego this off-season, and it goes by the name of "Leon."

'Ocho Cinco' is all about numero uno

KEN BURTON
Staff Writer

Do you remember the old Budweiser commercials that featured "Leon," the flashy, self-absorbed wide receiver? In one, Leon is in an interview after a tough loss, speaking in the third person, saying that football is a team sport so the fault of the loss was that of his supporting cast despite his four fumbles. The commercial was supposed to be a satirical jab at the modern athlete who cares only about himself.

I thought the commercial was funny because it seemed so absurd in today's world of publicists and PR-conscious sports stars. I thought there was no way any player would make such ridiculous and obnoxious statements.

Then I saw Chad Johnson's interview with "SportsCenter's" Brian Kenny last week.

In the interview Johnson speaks in the third person, scoffs at the idea that Marvin Lewis wants to reconcile with him, praises himself for not having off-field troubles (I thought that was to be expected?), and at the conclusion of the interview, says, "That's it?," as if Kenny

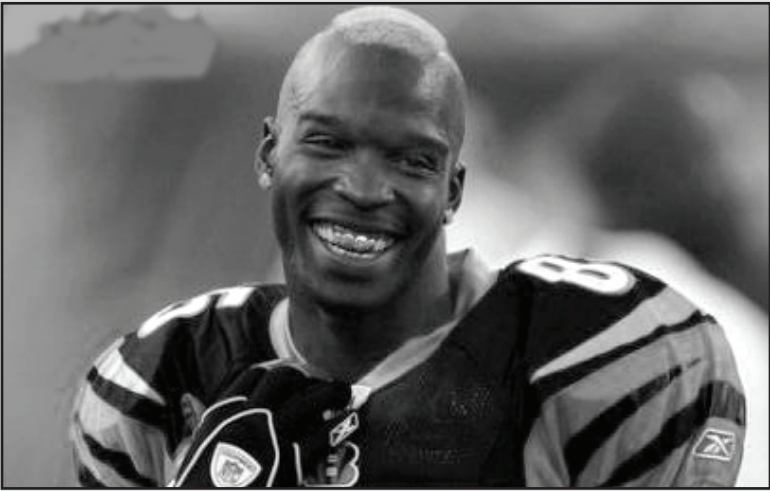


PHOTO COURTESY WHODEY.COM
Some Bengals fans would rather not see Chad Johnson's shiny gold teeth and finely coiffed mohawk on Cincinnati sidelines anymore..

was wasting Johnson's time. When Kenny gave Johnson an open forum to say whatever he wanted to say, Johnson just mumbled contradictory statements until the interview ended in an awkward abyss.

For years the Bengals front office put up with the Leon-like antics, the self-proclaimed nicknames, and even accusations that Johnson sucker punched head coach Marvin Lewis during halftime of the 2005 playoff game because he put up

numbers. But now the act is becoming too much of a distraction to tolerate.

Here is a short rundown of Chad Johnson's off season: he attempted to steal the spotlight at the Super Bowl by going on television and demanding a trade. Only about a month ago he shoved a reporter who asked him about his off-season venting to the media. He has called out Marvin Lewis multiple times. He has skipped off-season work-

Crash course in Fashion 101

KATIE ROSENBAUM

News Editor

I may not have any more authority than the next person regarding fashion. I’m not a judge on “Project Runway” nor do I have an in to Fashion Week in Paris or Milan.

However, I do pay a lot of attention to clothing and fashion. I have watched far too many episodes of “What Not to Wear,” read *Vogue* and *People Style* religiously and have spent far too many hours shopping online. I would also like to think that being from Chicago keeps me updated on current trends.

Like I said, I am not an expert. This is mostly just my opinion on dressing for specific occasions; take it or leave it. I am not writing this article to offend anyone, just to offer fashion advice from my perspective. But at the same time, don’t take fashion too seriously—dressing should never be a chore.

Interviews

Now that my friends and I are interviewing for “real” jobs and internships, interview attire is more important than ever. I think interviews are probably the one situation

where more classic styles rule (unless you are interviewing for a place at fashion school or to work for an Indie music label). Never wear flip flops to an interview. This rule not only applies for an internships, but also for on campus jobs. Making a good impression is important, and shoes that flop around do not lead to good impressions.

Do not wear scuffed up shoes from high school. If you have the nicest suit on but your shoes look five years old, your professionalism plummets. Ballet flats are always a cute, classy option that make the outfit look more polished for girls. Polished dress shoes work well.



For girls going into a professional interview, I would suggest wearing pants. Skirts can be tricky, as you may not know what type of skirts are acceptable at the office. A nice button-up with a sweater works or my favorites, a blazer or jacket, complete an outfit nicely.

For guys, please match shoes with a belt. A tie shouldn’t be too crazy, but should not look like it came from a stock broker’s closet. A tie is the place to show your personality. Never wear a bow tie unless you are walking down the aisle.

PHOTOS COURTESY
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THEBUDGETFASHIONISTA.COM,
DAMNLIKETHIS.COM, GARCOM, BUSTEDTEES.COM

Dates

First dates can be awkward and figuring out what to wear on a first date can often be the most stressful part.

Girls: I have often had some bizarre fashion choices (I am only 20, I want to have some fun with clothes. I have time to look completely polished like a J Crew ad when I’m 30). However, I think something simple for a first date is best. If the date is not too fancy, jeans are always a good option. I prefer dark denim that has a more tailored, polished look. Skirts or sundresses can also be worn as long as they don’t look like they have been shredded to pieces and have a sense of class. A short skirt should not be worn with a too revealing top; pick one or the other.

Every girl should have a go-to shirt that she can wear in certain situations: a shirt she feels pretty and comfortable in and is cute without being trashy or tacky. There are too many tacky girls out there and you don’t want to join them. Keep it classy, girls!

You should also probably save the leggings for the third date. Guys don’t really understand them.

Guys: Khakis are a standard date option. Paired with a polo or button-up shirt you will likely look put together. I’m also quite the fan of plaid shorts. Flip-flops can be acceptable in certain situations. However, tennis shoes should be worn with more caution. Any shoe that you can run in should not be worn on a date. This means that Pumas and some New Balance shoes are acceptable as long as the shoes don’t reek.

Guys, please don’t wear message tees with “hidden” sexual innuendo. These messages are not hidden or funny. We are in college. I don’t want to date a high-schooler who thinks these message tees portray his supposed “player” status.

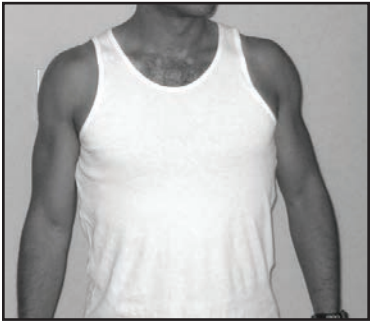


Never wear a shirt like this on a date.

Random Fashion Thoughts

There are a few things that apply for both men and women. T-shirts from high school should probably only be worn to bed or around the dorm at this point. I get it, you were a member of the soccer team, band or insert club here. However, we are at Xavier now.

Hoodies are really not attractive. You look three times larger than you actually are when wearing hoodies. Zip-up sweatshirts or track jackets are more stylish alternatives to hoodies.



I never want to see a guy wearing a wife beater on Xavier’s campus unless it is worn under a shirt. We are in Ohio, not the coast of Florida.

Sequins and glitter should only be worn in small doses. You do not want to look like a disco ball.

White socks bother me a lot on

girls. Colored socks look a lot better with Birkenstocks and jeans than white socks do. Guys aren’t exempt from this either. Don’t wear white socks when you dress up.

Jean shorts on a guy. Really? Please don’t wear them.

Ultimately, fashion is a personal decision. But remember, you never know who you are going to meet, where you are going to end up or what opportunities you may have, so dress to be ready for these situations.



10 Items Every Girl Should Own

1. Tailored jeans
2. Black and white shirts
3. Ballet flats (preferably in bright colors)
4. Trench coat or a blazer
5. Clutch, everyday bag and a large bag
6. Classic dress
7. Favorite “going out shirt”
8. Skirt
9. Classic sweater
10. Black heels



10 Items Every Guy Should Own

1. Jeans
2. Polo
3. Sweater
4. Sandals (preferably flip flops)
5. Belt and matching dress shoes
6. Button-down shirt
7. A power tie
8. Properly fitting suit
9. Plaid shorts
10. A quality wallet

Say Ola to Mr. Muskie 2008

BRANDY WILLIAMS
Asst.Arts & Entertainment Editor

Xavier has crowned its 11th Mr. Muskie, junior international affairs major Ola Shokunbi, with a tiara to sport and a check for \$300.

Wednesday night freshmen Mike Franke and Andrew Leon, sophomore Patrick Russell, junior Ola Shokunbi and seniors Algis Aukstulolis and Ray O’Brien set out to prove that they have what it takes to be Xavier’s GQ Mr. Muskie, all while displaying their creative sides through such antics as interpretive ribbon dancing and stand up comedy acts.

The show opened with a roar as the contestants modeled their swimsuits, though most sported ripped abs and speedos. Shokunbi

went the untraditional route modeling a floral bikini claiming to have come from Fr. Graham’s collection and O’Brien showcased his physique with a lime green Borat style “slingshot” swim suit.

There was never a dull moment in between scenes. The audience was entertained by the always hilarious hosts Briana Hansen and Reid Faylor as they played a guitar duet and a rap off. Faylor even polled the audience for advice on asking Hansen out.

The competition judged the six young men on talent, swim wear, Q&A and dancing abilities. The laughs kept coming as each put aside their dignity and let their inner goofball erupt.

For three lucky contestants their



NEWSWIRE PHOTO BY ERIKA BRESEE

Do you think the bank takes giant cardboard checks?

hard work paid off as O’Brien received \$50 and third place, Mike Franke took home \$150 and the title of second runner up.

“The swimsuit competition was the most challenging part,” said O’Brien. “Especially not having the most prized physic and competing against three swimmers and an Ola.”

“It was a very peculiar show,” said freshman Tahshara Boochee. “The talents were funny and the contestants were outrageous. My favorite talent was when [Patrick Russell] dressed as both Aladdin and Jasmine and sang “A Whole New World,” I especially loved the bra.”

The final four contestants, O’Brien, Shokunbi, Russel and

Franke, were given the task of learning to tango, salsa, swing dance or waltz with their given partner in just minutes. While some had two left feet, Ray O’Brien said he especially loved swing dancing with Ashley Marine.

“It feels good to be Mr. Muskie minus the tiara,” said Shokunbi. “I will feel like I’m on top of the world for like the next two weeks. I really enjoyed putting all this together with the help of my friends; they were sending me a lot of texts saying “you can do it.”

When asked what he will do with the \$300 winnings, Shokunbi says it has made him bold enough to ask a volleyball player out on a date.



NEWSWIRE PHOTOS BY ERIKA BRESEE

Patrick Russel sings both Aladdin and Jasmine’s parts in “A Whole New World” and Andrew Leone shows off his ribbon dancing skills.

BRIEFS

Emily Hoferer, Editor
Arts & Entertainment Desk:
745-2878
newswire-diversions@xavier.edu

Guitar Hero

Do you think you are a guitar hero? Come show your skills at 7 p.m. Friday, April 11 in the GSC Clock Tower. Sign up in the SAC Office. The top three winners receive prizes. There will be pizza, chips and drinks for all. Each participant receives a Rock Star Energy Drink. Call x3534 if you have any questions.

Late Night Movie

The GSC Late Night Movie for April is “Charlie Wilson’s War.” Show times are 11 p.m. Thursday, April 10 through Saturday, April 12 in the GSC Theatre. Admission is free to all XU students with All Card. Sponsored by the Gallagher Student Center and SAC.

Madden tournament

Sign up for the Madden tournament on Friday, April 11. Tons of prizes and free food, Admission is only \$5 with a chance to win prizes such as Montgomery Inn Gift cards and movies, totaling almost \$150 in prizes. Sign-ups will be all this week in Gallagher. Event hosted by Delta Sigma Pi.

“Life is Beautiful”

At 10 p.m. on Wednesday, April 9 in the GSC Theater the Xavier Italian-American Club is hosting the 2nd annual viewing of “Life is Beautiful.” Shirts will also be sold at the event for \$10.



Xavier Mad-Libs

You, _____(name of one of your personalities), were walking down Cleneay, when the Zumbiel plant imploded, ____ (number greater then 5) months after the original deadline. The blast from the implosion causes a shift in your molecular structure and gives you the power of _____(lame super power). With this power you are entitled to fight everything_____(adj) and _____(adj).

A evil force has taken over the sorcerer_____(favorite Jesuit) and is terrorizing Xavier University. It has been using its magical powers to raise tuition and cause_____(use this space to complain about any issue regarding Xavier. Come on do it- it feels good, trust us.) With your abilities to _____(same lame superpower), you are the only one who can stop this ____ (noun). _____(same

Jesuit) is hiding out in _____(any building on campus), and you must _____(verb) his flunkies first. You enter the building and are attacked by a possessed Luther Smith with _____(bow tie-related superpower). He _____(verb) at you, but you react, throwing a _____(any subject) book at him. Though it hits him, you are filled with _____(emotion), because the bookstore will never buy back the book now, so you will have to sell it to the _____(adj) guys in the van outside Alter.

Next, officers of Campus Police enter, riding _____(vehicle), tickets in hand. “ No superhero parking in _____(parking lot) from ____ (time of day) to ____ (time of day),” they _____(verb). Taking a cue from your _____(noun indicating relationship), the Blue Blob, you dress up as _____(unclassifiable

mascot) to distract them. It works and they_____(verb indicating defeat).

_____(preposition) you stands _____(same Jesuit). He_____(verb) at you and drops the weight of Xavier’s heavy core curriculum on you. You counter by _____(action) and mention that if the evil force takes over the university, it will have to _____(verb) with _____(impending Xavier lawsuit). The evil force _____(verb) and runs away. You have _____(verb in past tense) the _____(noun)!

As a reward, Xavier replaces all the heads of statues on campus with your face. The _____(statue on campus), looks exceptionally_____(adj.) Also, to reward themselves for surviving the incident, SGA gives themselves bigger salaries.

by Felipe Garcia

Muski Masti dance participants consisted of two sophomores, nine juniors, and five seniors. Photos by Erika Bresee.

Midwest Masala

MADELINE LAFAVE
Feature News Editor

All six teams that competed in South Asian Society's Midwest Masala Dance competition brought something completely different to the table in successfully fusing polar cultures and styles of dance, movement and showmanship into one amazing event.

The goal of the whole shebang was to externalize and share with the audience the cultural roots of South Asia's influence and to raise money (100 percent of proceeds) for the Saraswati Higher Secondary School, a public school in Nepal that serves the poorest of the poor.

The two all-female teams from University of Illinois: Chicago and the University of Michigan (UM) came out on top in the competition, with UM taking home first place.

Miami University's Milaap team

started out the competition with a cross-cultural rendition of a traditional wedding ceremony. The team impressed the audience with quick costume changes and good interaction and balance between female and male dancers. Midway through the dance, however, Cintas experienced some technical difficulties and the music shut down. Miami did well making light of the situation and the team was given the opportunity to begin their dance again following the performance by Case Western Reserve University's Spartan Bhangra crew.

A light and sound-enhanced lightning storm permeated Cintas Center as the Spartans took the stage in traditional South Asian dress. The unified attire and makeup allowed for solid focus on the aspects of dance portrayed. The Spartans

Bright colors, booming instrumentals and cultural delicacies paired with extraordinary dance came together in successfully carrying out the third annual Midwest Masala South Asian Dance Competition held at Xavier's Cintas Center.

were truly synchronized throughout, and presented both Eastern and Western dance, yet lacked Western influence in dress.

The Wayne State 313 Warriors took the stage with lots of energy and kept the audience on the edge of their seats with numerous song and dance changes—power hour style. While undoubtedly a talented and innovative group of dancers who showed great versatility, it was clear that Wayne State lacked some of the cultural aspects shown by the other groups. Their dedication was shown at the very end of the dance when one of the male Spartans injured himself and had to be discreetly carried offstage.

The girls from the University of Michigan showed great confidence and huge smiles as they dominated the stage with a theatrical dance portraying the "Game of LIFE." At one point, a dancer was shown driving in a car canoodling with her newly acquired "husband"—the blue peg. Uniformity in appearance, agility and energy emanated from the team, and their costumes were a good balance between traditional Indian and modern inspired outfits.

The one and only Xavier University Muski Masti, with a diverse squad of athletes, performed an inspiring multi-dimensional choreography depicting street-inspired dance followed by traditional South Asian dance. Playing out a Cinderella story, which was set up in the intro movie, Muski Masti successfully carried this theme throughout the dance leading to the final reunion of the lovers. Clad in sweats and T-shirts for the hip-hop portion of the dance, a quick costume change transformed the direction of the performance into high energy Indian dance showing the versatility of XU dancers.

The final performance was by the



A Spartan from Case Western Reserve University's Bhangra dance crew serves himself some of the delicious Indian food catered by Hi Bombay Cuisine.

all-female group from University of Illinois: Chicago, making quite a bang for their first year in the competition. Showing a similar success in uniformity to that of the Michigan all-girls' team, Dhamaal wore a beautiful Eastern/Western fusion outfit which was sprinkles on the already incredible cake of a performance. The fluidity of the female bodies and precision of movement paired with great energy made Dhamaal a true contender for the prize.

The Xavier Dance Team displayed their skills adding further dimension to the show in a non-competitive performance. The University of Virginia was named in the program but for some reason did not compete.

The hard work and dedication of everyone involved in the competition was apparent. The Midwest Masala continues to be a huge success, and Xavier University's South Asian Society has established itself as an integral part of our campus.



The theme of the dance competition was "the fusion of cultures" with the aim of combining traditional Eastern dance style with that of modern Western. Junior Monica Miller demonstrates this synthesis.



Senior Muski Masti member Nilay Choksi displays the meticulously choreographed number which we and co-coreographers sophomores Tasheem Kaleem and Kushboo Doshi created.